Calcoin News

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California State Numismatic Association

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JANUARY 1956

Names in World History

AUGUSTUS CAESAR

By WILLIAM TOBITT, Corona Del Mar

Augustus Caesar (B.C. 63-14 A.D.) first hit the clay tabloids with that name in 27 B.C. when he moved into Rome's equivalent of Buckingham Palace and set up shop as the first Roman emperor. Up to then he'd been g e t t i n g his mail as Gaius Julius Caesar Octavianus — Octavius for short.

Octavius had been adopted early in his teens by his grand-uncle, Julius Caesar, who took a shine to the kid's

CISTOPHORIC MEDALLION

promise to turn out as a first-class mobster. Without tipping his hand, Julius papyrused that should anything untidy happen to him, like a knife under the scapula, he wanted Octavius to run the business. Julius, not exactly a schnook, figured that what the kid didn't know wouldn't hurt Julius.

Sure enough, Julius got the knife from et tu Brute. That was in 44 B.C. when Octavius was 19. Octavius hot-footed it to Rome for the reading of the will but found that Mark Antony had glommed onto everything.

Octavius, plenty pee ohed, joined the opposition to Antony and helped pin his ears back at Mutina. But when Tony reneged on pungling up uncle Julius' loot to the unwashed public, as per his legacy, Octavius made a smart grandstand play. He paid the peons out of his own pocket. What's more, he kept Tony scrambling backward across the Alps until Tony had had enough — then Octavius forgave him.

Next year, in 43 B.C., Octavius wangled a spot as Roman consul. Antony galloped out of Gaul with a pal named Marcus Lepidus and the two of them joined up with Octavius. First on the agenda was kicking the stuffings out of Brutus and Cassius for knocking off Julius. Lepidus was left in Rome to run the pinball racket while Octavius and Antony rode off to Philippi (this in 42 B.C.) where they so embarrassed B r u t u s and Cassius the two butcher boys suicided.

Then the three gunsels divided up the empire, Octavius taking the big chunk centering on Rome, Antony getting the East (which included Cleopatra, which wasn't a bad piece in itself), and Lepidus getting Africa. Lepidus lasted quick. That left Octavius and A n t o n y — and Octavius wasn't his uncle J u l i u s' heir for nothing.

Octavius was tending to business in Rome. But Antony was letting too much of his business be tended by Cleo in Egypt. Octavius saw his chance to take over the whole show. Publicly shocked at the arrogance of the Queen of Egypt but privately out for Antony's neck, Octavius sent his galleys off to war. They met the Antony-Cleopatra scows at Actium (31 B.C.) and clobbered 'em. Likewise embarrassed, Antony killed himself and Cleo got it in the asp.

Octavius finally had it made. In B.C. 29, only 34, he became master of the Roman world and two years later (27 B.C.) he stepped up as Emperor Augustus Caesar.

The next 41 years were a picnic. He o u t l a w e d war for the world

(Continued on Page 9)

William Tobitt, 617 Marigold Ave., Corona Del Mar, is an ex-newspaperman, writer and medical public relations specialist. With this article, Tobitt becomes joint author with Dr. C. Glenn Curtis, Brea, of the series, "Names in World History".

Next -- San Jose -- April 19-22

By WILLIAM R. WEBER, General Chairman

Plans for the coming CSNA convention, to be held in the Hotel Sainte Claire, San Jose, April 19-22, are off to an excellent start. Accommodations for displays, bourse, banquet and luncheon are "tops". There is an abundance of room and facilities for all major and minor functions. Space reserved for bourse and exhibits exceeds that of any previous CSNA convention. Those attending the 1949 state convention in San Jose will recall that a series of three rooms with sliding doors between were used for exhibits and bourse. This time they will be used for exhibits only and the large adjoining Spartan Room will be used exclusively by the bourse. Dealers in the bourse will have 6-foot tables, rather than the 4- to 5-foot spaces heretofore assigned them.

Reservations for the bourse, $20, may now be made with Earl A. Parker, bourse chairman, 1254 Market St., San Francisco 2, Calif., and for exhibits, 50 cents per case, with Roy Hill, 1140 Sutter St., San Francisco 9, Calif.

Other committee heads who have done much to get things rolling are Dr. Nathan Bowers, security; Prof. Charles V. Kappen, publicity; Robert G. McArthur, Ralph A. Mitchell, Beverly Gayle Smith, Erich Werling and Rudy Gjurovich.

Leo A. Young will conduct the auction. If you have consignments you wish to make, write to Young, P.O. Box 115, Lockeford, Calif.

Final convention plans and program will appear in the March **Calcoin News.**

Most important ingredient will be you who plan to attend. We hope you will be pleasantly surprised at what we have in store.

———CSNA———

METHOD OF TELLING COIN AGE

Dr. Earle R. Caley and Wallace H. Deebel, Ohio State University chemists, have discovered a method of telling the age of ancient coins by the proportion of their component metals. According to their studies, there are systematic chronological changes in the relative amounts of lead and tin in ancient Greek bronze coinage, with the later coins containing more lead.

———CSNA———

DEVALUATION PAYS OFF

Mexico's devaluation of the peso from 8.65 to 12.50 to the U.S. dollar on April 17, 1954, has resulted in a positive international position.

The Bank of Mexico estimates the country earned a $47,614,000 credit during the first quarter of the year, as compared with a deficit of $5,450,000 for the same period a year ago.

Oakland Collector's Coins Are Stolen

The home of Stanley S. Hawley, 5401 Proctor Ave., Oakland 18, Calif., was burglarized during the Thanksgiving holiday. Major loss was his collection of Ancient Greek coins, although antique watches and some costume jewelry were taken.

Some of the coins taken were a set of Athenians, from tetradrachm down to quarter obol (nine pieces — many members will remember his display of these at the Hotel Claremont convention); Lydian silver siglos; Persian silver daric; several coins from the Ionian coast (Ephesus, Samos, Phocaea, etc.); several coins from Sicily (Agrigentum "Crab", tetradrachm from Syracuse, litra from Zancle); coins from South Italy (Tarentum, Metapontum, Velia and Neapolis).

Also stolen were 20 proof sets: ten 1954, ten 1955; and a complete set of 1954 uncirculated rolls, cents through halves.

Any information concerning these coins should be supplied to Hawley and to the Oakland Police Dept., through local police.

California Club News, Views and Whos

East Bay Coin Club

Meets 2nd Friday, 8 P.M., at Danish Hall, 164 11th St., Oakland, Second Floor

Stanley Hawley, immediate past president, presided at the Nov. 11 meeting, in the absence of both president and vice-president. Present were 34 members and seven guests.

Hawley presented the report of the nominating committee: for president, Don T. Thrall; recording secretary, Daniel J. Redmond; corresponding secretary, Mary Goodrich; and governors, Walter E. Holm, R. J. Frost and Charles R. Bigelow. Elections will be held in December.

Everyone was urged to bring a small gift to be exchanged at the December Christmas party meeting.

Displays were made and described by Lee Bollinger, Don Thrall, A. D. Craig (his recently published book on Korean coins), Clifford Bloom, Charles R. Bigelow and A. G. K. Jakobsen.

The ANA slide set on U.S. commemorative half dollars was projected by Mr. Day of the Oakland Boys Club and narrated by Don Thrall.

* * *

Pres. Gil Eaton welcomed 54 members and 17 guests to the new meeting place, Danish Hall, Oct. 14.

Earl Parker, introduced by Ken Allen, told of his recent trip to Alaska on the occasion of his 25th wedding anniversary. The Parkers flew to Portland, stopped at Seattle, Victoria and Vancouver, then took the boat up the inside passage, looking for coins all along the way.

The following applicants for membership were introduced: Steven M. Pulver, 727 Arimo Ave., Oakland 10; Freeman Smith, 1719 Allston Way, Berkeley 3; and B. M. O'Hea, 2240 Pacific Ave., San Francisco.

Exhibitors were Leo Young, Kirby Brown, Charles Bigelow, Michael Carr, Ken Allen, Don Thrall, D. L. Rhodes, Arnold Rosing, E. A. Parker, Clifford Bloom, Charles N. Peters and Roy Hill. Interesting exhibits were Young's set of shield nickels in proof, Rhodes' Bryan money background material, and Hill's Canadian wooden nickels.

—Don T. Thrall,
Secretary.

Long Beach Coin Club

Meets 1st Tuesday, 7:30 P.M., at Linden Hall, 208 Linden Ave., Long Beach

The Oct. 4 meeting featured talks by Sol Alexander and Ben Williams.

Alexander, an advanced collector of the coins and currency of Mexico, described a recent trip to Mexico devoted to a search for Mexican rarities and for information relative to minting operations during the Revolutionary period. His trip took him into many remote parts of Mexico, where he talked with persons formerly connected with minting of Revolution period coinage, and with several Mexican collectors. His talk was illustrated with a display of coins acquired during the trip, among which was the rare 60-peso Oaxaca gold piece, of which only 21 were minted.

Ben Williams spoke on "How To Become a Collector", recounting some of the varied experiences of 45 years of coin collecting. He cited the advent of many coin clubs, of which there were few when he began collecting, as contributing to the greatly increased number of collectors and the consequent rise in coin prices.

—Charles M. Johnson,
President.

Los Angeles Coin Club

Meets 1st Friday, 8 P.M., at Foresters' Hall, Los Angeles

Pres. William H. Spence presided over the 332nd meeting Nov. 4; 126 present; auction. New members: C. B. Bean, Herman H. Engelhardt, Robert R. Fitzgibbons, Vic Marrone and Carl W. Patten Jr.

By majority vote, members confirmed the club's invitation to the ANA to hold its annual convention in Los Angeles in 1958.

Nominations of officers for 1956

were made and accepted, with further nominations to be received at the December meeting, when elections will be held.

Featured speaker was S. M. Koeppel, whose subject was "The Romance of Money". Koeppel, a former club president, has been a collector for 50 years and a dealer for 25 He covered the field of coinage and currency from earliest times to the present, illustrating his talk with selected specimens of the numismatic material described. Among these were coins of Biblical times, Colonial coins and California gold, as well as numerous specimens of currency, from mulberry bark money to contemporary notes. Koeppel emphasized that a knowledge of social, political and economic history of the world can be gained through the study of numismatics.

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The 331st meeting Oct. 7 was attended by 94. New members admitted were F. N. Masemore and Mario G. Arguijo.

A moment of silence was observed in tribute to the memory of Robert J. Heller and Howard C. Laible, recently deceased members.

Michael P. Carey was honored as a recipient of an honorary ANA membership, awarded at the Omaha convention.

A special auction of gold, proof and uncirculated coins concluded the meeting.

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Eighty-seven persons attended the Sept. 2 meeting. New members: Harold Atherton, Dr. Charles E. Mason, Bruce McBroom, D. H. Runner, Siegfried Stiefel and Earl Glen Whitehead Jr.

Program featured showing of ANA Slide Set No. 1, "Coins of Colonial America". This improved set of slides depicts many of the coins in use during the early days of American history.

Members voted to hold their annual banquet in conjunction with that of the newly-formed NASC in 1956.

—(Mrs.) Esther G. Spence,
Secretary.

———CSNA———

The government of New York state earns $1 every second on the money it has invested.

* * *

Tibetans still scratch gold from the earth with gazelle horns.

Orange Co. Coin Club

Meets 4th Wednesday, 8 P.M., at Woman's Clubhouse, Brea

Pres. Winn Osborne presided 208th meeting, Oct. 26; 114 present; exhibits; refreshments; auction.

L. L. Trickey, collector-of-the-month, told of his 50 years of coin collecting, starting when as a boy he worked for a collector and was paid in old coins at face value. All the coins in his 50-year-old collection have come from circulation.

Members were shocked to hear that Robert Heller, veteran collector and long-time member of the club, had died Sept. 29.

Sol Alexander, Long Beach, was introduced by program chairman Joe Courreges as speaker. His subject, "Recent Revolutionary Coins of Mexico", was most interesting and educational. Specimens of all the known coins issued by the various revolutionary leaders and generals were shown and described by the speaker, who said that he had to spend some time in travel through Mexico in order to obtain some of the rare pieces. Some of these were obtained from persons who were engaged to strike the coins. Satisfaction gained from his collection has been derived primarily from the thrill and romance of tracking coins to their sources.

Six new members were admitted to the club, which now numbers 220 paid members for 1955.

* * *

Pres. Winn Osborne presided at 207th meeting Sept. 28; 103 present; exhibits; refreshments; auction.

John Stoppelwerth, collector-of-the-month, stole the show with a short but complete history of U.S. currency. He described each type of currency that has circulated in this country as money: Continental currency, fractional currency, state bank notes and regular federal currency down to current issues. Stoppelwerth displayed numerous state bank notes, including very rare odd denomina-

tions that few collectors can duplicate.

Program chairman Courreges then introduced Charles Ruby, speaker.

Ruby gave the audience a curtain call on his favorite subject, "Large Cents". Quoting copiously from early Philadelphia Mint records, he explained how crude minting machinery, scarcity of metals, and an epidemic of yellow fever led to many die varieties in the early issues of the big copper coin. So convincing was Ruby in his championing of his favorite coin series that not a few collectors went home with a touch of "big cent fever".

—Herb Bergen,
Secretary.

PCNS

Meets last Wednesday,
8 P.M., at Palace Hotel,
San Francisco

The 476th meeting Oct. 26 was attended by 38 members and nine guests. Displays were of hobbies other than coins.

Exhibitors were Madeline Bergman, Clifford Bloom, Stanley Blois, Mrs. Stanley Blois, Dr. N. A. Bowers, H. F. Bowker, Mrs. H. F. Bowker, Mike Carr, Alan Craig, Jim Ferguson, Walter Gerth, Rudy Gjurovich, Sidney Haas, F. E. Howard, Jim Lillianthal, Clifford Liss, Bea Liss, Kurt Loret, Barney O'Hea, John Ohls, Earl Parker, F. C. Powell, Don Rhodes, Jim Seikman, Carol Snedaker, Paul Snedaker, Leo Young and Ken Allen.

Allen spoke on and displayed antique watches.

J. V. McDermott of S. Milwaukee, Wis., a guest, displayed and spoke on both his genuine and counterfeit 1913 Liberty head nickels.

—Eula C. Jakobsen,
Secretary.

* * *

L. C. Lodge addressed the Sept. 28 meeting on "The Changing Trend in Our Standard Issue Coins". Thirty members and 10 guests were present.

Walter Gerth presented his paper, "Ships, Coins and Traditions".

Exhibitors: Bill Tivol, Clifford Bloom, Alvin Smith, Ken Allen, Roy Hill, John Ohls, Earl Parker, George Garner, Michael Carr, F. C. Powell, Don Rhodes, Cliff Liss, F. C. Howard, Les Lodge, Kurt Loret, Walter Gerth and Paul Snedaker.

—Milton C. Strauch,
Secretary, Pro Tem.

Peninsula Coin Club

Meets 1st Thursday at Chamber of Commerce Bldg., 725 University Ave., Palo Alto

Madeline Bergman, vice-president, presided over the 20th meeting Nov. 2. Each member showed and described an exhibit.

A drawing on a clock radio will be held at the January meeting to help finance the move to a new meeting place.

New regular meeting night will be the first Thursday of each month. New meeting place is the Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce Bldg., 725 University Ave., Palo Alto.

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A special meeting was held Oct. 19, with Madeline Bergman presiding. The resignation of Anna Marie Currie, secretary, was accepted, as she is moving out of the state. Letha Gamble was elected to fill out the term. Roy Hill was elected president to fill out the term of Ralph Zimmerman, who resigned because of inability to attend meetings.

Plans were discussed for increasing membership and a prize of a 1955 proof set will be awarded the member who brings in the most new members, above two, during November and December.

—Letha Gamble,
Secretary.

* * *

The club met Sept. 7, Madeline Bergman presiding.

Guest speaker, Gilbert D. Eaton, president of the East Bay Coin Club, gave a most informative talk about starting meetings on time, officers being sincere and members visiting other clubs. Little known facts from his speech were: "Young boys are far more interested in coins than young girls. The power of possession is dominant in many coin collectors. People in the East desire '55S dimes and cents." Eaton said library books on coins are plentiful and more people should read them to enjoy their collections more.

—Anna Marie Currie,
Secretary.

San Bernardino Co. Coin Club

Meets 3rd Thursday, 8 P.M., at Legion Hall, 631 "G" St., San Bernardino

Officers for 1956 were elected at the Nov. 17 meeting, which was attended by 43 members and guests. A. Ben Coon was elected president; Charles G. Colver, vice-president; Fred W. Coops, corresponding secretary; L. L. Brown, recording secretary; Herbert Feinberg, treasurer; and O. H. Lages, Andrew Verbance, Bryan Burke and Opie Arnold, directors.

Bryan Burke, program chairman, showed an ANA slide set, with members contributing comments based on their own knowledge of the coins illustrated. The prepared script was used only to provide information not supplied by members. This is an interesting way to use slides.

Exhibitors were Bryan Burke, Dr. C. L. Emmons and William T. Gustin.

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A record number of 48 members and guests attended the 88th meeting Oct. 20. Milton Thurber, Charles Bradford, John Valleroy, Sylvia Novack and Mrs. Charles Colver were welcomed as new members.

Bryan Burke presented some excellent slides prepared by club members. The color backgrounds, selected to contrast with the coins, set them off to good advantage. It was suggested that members having interesting or unusual coins submit them for preparation of slides, so that they may be shared with other collectors in showings at future meetings.

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Pres. John Yribarne welcomed 41 members and guests to the Sept. 15 meeting. Capt. John Riddle was elected to membership. Maj. H. H. Hanisee Jr., who became the 100th member recently, was presented with a 100-year-old coin, an 1855O half dollar.

A. Ben Coon spoke on coin grading, emphasizing that rarity and increase in value, as well as the actual condition of the coin, affect the grading. He advocated a standardized system. A feature of his presentation was a display of coins which members were asked to grade, the results being compared with professional grading already assigned to each coin. Coon advised novices to establish themselves with veteran collectors for maximum enjoyment and knowledge of numismatics.

—L. L. Brown,
Recording Secretary.

San Jose Coin Club

Meets 1st Monday, 8 P.M., at Hotel DeAnza, San Jose

ANA slides on "Ancient Greek Coinage" was the program for the Nov. 7 meeting. Exhibits and comments were made by George Kohl, Richard Rogers, William Stones, Charles V. Kappen and Ralph Smith.

Pres. Austen Warburton invited members to display coins at De Saisset Museum at the University of Santa Clara.

* * *

Dennis Olswang spoke on "Canadian Numismatic History" at the Oct. 3 meeting, which was attended by 25 members and guests.

Olswang pointed out that, up to 1908, Canadian coins were struck in England and that the first official coinage for Canada was begun in 1858, only year for the 20-cent silver piece. He said that one of the oddest coins is the 12-sided Beaver 5-cent piece. Great care is taken by the Canadian Mint to insure perfection of its products. Dies are chromium plated. Hence, the high luster of Canadian coins resembles that of U.S. proofs.

Visitors A. W. Ritchie and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Monteagle of the East Bay Coin Club were welcomed. They invited members to attend the Oct. 16 "Coinival" in Oakland.

Monteagle exhibited San Francisco and Carson City Mint dies and memorabilia; Ritchie, Chinese paper money; George Kohl, coin books and periodicals; and Roy Hill, Canadian coins.

Bill Craig, author of **Germanic Coinages,** conducted the auction.

—Beverly Gayle Smith,
Secretary.

Convention Exhibits

By THOMAS W. WARD, Fallbrook

JOHNSON, Charles M.: U.S. coins showing minor varieties, die breaks, etc.; gold plated nickel; counterfeits. **(First Award, U.S.)**

WARD, Thomas W.: Roman Aes Grave (large cast coins); Roman Republican silver; Roman Imperial bronze. **(First Award, Ancient)**

HERNANDEZ, Frank P.: Over 1600 crowns of all nations, in cases decorated with flags of those countries. **(First Award, Modern)**

STRAUCH, Milton C.: Large showing of Albania. **(First Award, Specialized)**

STOPPELWERTH, John: Colonial and fractional currency; broken bank notes. **(First Award, Paper Money)**

PANOSH, Anna Merle: Orders and decorations, chiefly Spanish and Oriental. **(First Award, Medals)**

BOYCE, Tom: Types of coins, tokens, medals, etc., demonstrating the different series collected. **(First Junior Award)**

PANOSH, Leonel C.: Badges, pictures and literature of past CSNA conventions, with map showing locations. **(First Award, Unclassified)**

NICHOLS, Gene N.: U.S. proofs, including Stellas and patterns, attractively mounted on large plastic plaque. **(Second Award, U.S.)**

COOPER, Eugene: Greek coins, each accompanied by photograph showing its obverse and reverse **(Second Award, Ancient)**; medals of Society of Medalists. **(Second Award, Medals)**

GINGRAS, Armando: Coins showing horses. **(Second Junior Award)**

HAWKINS, Harry H.: Coins of the British Empire; foreign paper money; modern foreign coins. **(Second Award, Modern; Third Award, Paper Money)**

ALEXANDER, Sol: Revolutionary coins of Mexico, with map showing places of issue. **(Second Award, Specialized)**

RUBY, Charles: Rarest early cents, quarters, half dollars and dollars, including two of the finest known 1794 dollars; extensive gold, including commemoratives and 1795 half eagle and eagle; large paper money. **(Second Award, Paper Money)**

VIGNEAULT, Arthur J.: Fractional and Confederate currency; commemorative half dollars; wooden "nickels". **(Second Award, Unclassified)**

BELL, William H.: Commemorative half dollars, Isabella quarter and Lafayette dollar, with map illustrating purposes of issue. **(Third Award, U.S.)**

WILSON, Dr. Ray H.: Newfoundland coins almost complete, including many rarities. **(Third Award, Specialized)**

MARKOFF, Elliott: U.S. types in all metals; large bills; commemorative half dollars and gold; Polish underground seals; presidential medals. **(Third Award, Medals)**

BROWN, Kirby: Chinese odd-shaped coins. **(Third Junior Award)**

ANDERSEN, James J.: Large plastic flag inset with commemorative half dollars; "Coins Through the Ages", examples from ancient Greek to modern U.S. **(Third Award, Unclassified)**

CAME, Melvin E.: "Cartwheels on Parade" — large display of crowns and dollars, illustrating their history. **(Special Award)**

COLVER, Charles G.: British coins from Roman times to present in all metals; countermarked Spanish silver; patterns.

DAVIDSON, Harry S.: U.S. gold type set.

DeWITT, Freddie: First and last issues of San Francisco Mint.

FREEMAN, Donald: First and last issues of San Francisco Mint; U.S. gold.

McDERMOTT, J. V.: 1913 Liberty nickel.

MURRAY, Wayne: U.S. proofs; commemorative half dollars.

NIELSEN, Thomas W.: U.S. gold type set.

SMITH, James D.: U.S. proofs.

WALLACE, Dr. Bruce: Indian cents; standing Liberty quarters.

WALRATH, Louis: Proof shield and Liberty nickels; 3- and 20-cent proofs in plastic; U.S. flag inset with Indian nickels.

WERLING, Erich: U.S. commemorative gold; coins of Maria Theresa from various provinces.

Once more we have to add what we have always said before: these descriptions of the displays do not do justice to them. We can give only a bare outline of each exhibit, and many fine coins were shown in addition to those named.

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Many displays were very attractively assembled. Plastic was used very freely, the largest example probably being that of Gene Nichols' showing. In the form of U.S. flags, it was used by Jim Andersen and Louie Walrath. The background of Melvin Came's display was very elaborate and artistic. Numerous exhibitors used maps and photographs in illustration. Eugene Cooper made particularly good use of photos by showing pictures of obverses and reverses, thus partially solving the problem of showing both sides of coins at once. Frank Hernandez had new upright cases made to show a large number of coins in vertical position.

* * * *

The exhibits were judged by John E. Ohls, John Yribarne and Joseph S. Grant, who were very careful and took pains to make fair awards. Judging always is a tough job, and we appreciate their undertaking it. Many problems enter into the task of judging; condition, rarity, arrangement, attractiveness, information to be obtained, etc. In some series, completion is important; in others it is not, as completion is impossible. While condition is important, some coins are simply impossible to obtain in good condition; the Spanish mints did not strike proof cobs, nor did the ancients provide us with proofs. All of these things had to be taken into consideration by the judges in considering each display on its own merits.

* * * *

One of the outstanding displays — and, incidentally, the smallest — was the 1913 Liberty nickel of J. V. McDermott. This coin had good publicity through the local radio and television stations, and very many of the casual visitors asked for its location immediately on their arrival.

* * * *

Douglas Decker Sr. and Roy Hill were in charge of the exhibits. We had an ample supply of cases due to the courtesy of Paul Mannen, manager of the Southern California Exposition, who allowed us to use as many of the cases belonging to the Exposition as we wanted.

East Bay 'Coinival' Registers 160 Collectors

East Bay Coin Club's "Coinival" Oct. 16 registered 160 persons. Held in the Oakland Boys' Club, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., activities included numismatic talk, vaudeville entertainment, a 150-lot auction, 13 exhibits, and turkey dinner. A full-length movie was provided for the children at the time of the auction.

Leo A. Young, Lockeford, spoke on "Interesting Moneys of the World" and exhibited odd and curious specimens which he used as background.

Kirby Brown received first award, a silver medal, for his exhibit of Chinese knife and spade money. Other exhibitors were Ken Allen, Lee Bollinger, Jack Frost, Jim and Mary Goodrich, Roy Hill, A. G. K. Jakobsen, Oakland Junior Coin Club, Dan Redmond, A. W. Ritchie, Erich Werling, Al Smith and Don Thrall.

A. W. Ritchie was general chairman.

Idea of the "Coinival" is to provide one day a year for Northern California coin collectors and their friends to become better acquainted with one another; to meet other collectors; to buy, sell and swap coins; to display their specialties, and in general to have a good time.

Augustus

(Continued from Page 2)

(Roman version) but managed to knock off heathens elsewhere. He played it big for the literati with art, literature, marble stuff and buildings.

And if it were not for him and his apple-polishing senators, we'd be trying to stretch 11 months into a year with nothing to fill up between July and September.

San Diego Convention Roundup

The 17th semi-annual convention of the California State Numismatic Association, held in the U. S. Grant Hotel, San Diego, Nov. 10-13, boasted a total registration of 205 persons, coming from all sections of the state. Attendance from the Bay Area and the rest of the "North" was by far the best yet for a southern convention. Southerners are expected to reciprocate by attending the San Jose convention April 19-22.

A "Fiesta de Tijuana", with dinner and a Jai-Alai party at the Fronton in the border city Nov. 10, was attended by 70 of the first-day arrivals. The bus tour of San Diego Friday morning was made by 21 persons; the boat tour of San Diego Bay on Saturday, by 47; and the trip to the zoo on Sunday, by 16.

The Coin Club Officers' Breakfast Saturday was attended by 33. Subjects discussed were East Bay Coin Club's "Coinival", Ken Allen; greeting of visitors, John E. Ohls and Dr. N. A. Bowers; meeting announcement cards, William Spence; the San Diego Numismatic Society **Bulletin,** James J. Andersen; annual picnics, John C. Yribarne; board meetings for business, Dr. C. L. Emmons; Chamber of Commerce membership, Roy Hill; **Calcoin News,** Pres. R. G. McArthur and Editor Charles V. Kappen; general observations, Leonel C. Panosh, ANA president, and R. S. Yeoman, author of **A Guide Book of United States Coins.**

Wilson Edwards, manager of Radio Station KSDO, was master of ceremonies at the Saturday banquet, attended by 196. Entertainment by dancers and singers was provided by the Billy Carmen Co. John E. Ohls presented awards, listed elsewhere in this magazine. The door prize drawing was conducted by Francis Jones and Edwards.

The 18 out-of-staters introduced were B. A. Brown, Fallon, Nev.; J. C. Bushnell, Portland, Ore.; Mr. and Mrs. Albert C. Overton, Pueblo, Colo.; Chester L. Krause, Iola, Wis.; Jerry Cohen, Tucson, Ariz.; Harry H. Hawkins, Springfield, Ore.; Lester Peich, U. S. Navy; Ben Stack, Las Vegas, Nev.; Mr. and Mrs. James Kelly, Dayton, O.; Frank E. Chase, Zephr Cove, Nev.; V. J. Cummings, Parma, O.; Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Yeoman, Racine, Wis.; Robert M. Flinn, Albuquerque, N.M.; and Mr. and Mrs. J. V. McDermott, South Milwaukee, Wis.

The 32 convention exhibits are listed on Page 8.

Luncheons were attended by 88 on Sunday, 31 on Saturday and 43 on Friday. Dr. Ray Wilson, master of ceremonies at the Sunday luncheon, introduced CSNA officers and directors, San Diego Numismatic Society officials and convention committee workers present.

The convention committee consisted of Leonel C. Panosh, honorary chairman; Francis S. Jones, general chairman; James J. Andersen, co-chairman; Thomas W. Ward, registration; Dr. Bruce Wallace, finance; Eugene D. Johnston, bourse; Roy Hill and Douglas Decker, exhibits; Leo Young and James D. Smith, auction; Eugene Cooper, security; John E. Ohls, John C. Yribarne and Joseph S. Grant, awards; Leonel C. Panosh, forum; Atwood L. MacDonald, entertainment; Arthur Vigneault, special events; Mrs. A. L. MacDonald, ladies' events; William H. Bell, program; Lyle L. Gordon, publicity; Abe Beck, sergeant-at-arms; and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hamm, Mrs. Mildred Fischer, Mrs. Douglas Decker, Mrs. Margaret Hefner and Narciso Morales, hospitality, information and registration.

Twenty-five dealers had bourse spaces: A. C. Barlow, Los Angeles; Del Bassetti, San Luis Obispo; Karl M. Brainard, Los Angeles; Jerry Cohen, Tucson, Ariz.; Robert M. Flinn, Albuquerque, N. M.; Edward Gans, Berkeley; D. R. Goble, San Francisco; Charles R. Godbey, Oakland; W. E. Johnson, Santa Barbara; Eugene D. Johnston, San Diego; Charles V. Jones, Los Angeles; James Kelly, Dayton, O.; A. Kosoff, Encino; Abner Kreisberg, Beverly Hills; Kenneth W. Lee, Glendale; Albert C. Overton, Pueblo, Colo.; Earl A. Parker, San Francisco; Charles N. Peters, Alameda; Donald R. Rhodes, Vallejo; William J. Sexton, Santa Maria; William H. Smith, San Francisco; Ben Stack, Las Vegas, Nev.; Rowland Stokes, San Diego; Dr.

Bruce L. Wallace, San Diego; and Leo A. Young, Lockeford.

At the business session Friday, all CSNA officers and directors were present, first 100 per cent attendance in several conventions. Santa Barbara was awarded the fall, 1956, convention, which will be held either Nov. 9-12 or 8-11, preferably the former, since Monday, Nov. 12, is a holiday. Harry S. Davidson, CSNA vice-president, will be in charge of arrangements. The Vallejo Numismatic Society was awarded the spring, 1957, convention and the Long Beach Coin Club, the fall, 1957, convention.

Leo A. Young, P.O. Box 115, Lockeford, Calif., was awarded the auction for the San Jose convention, which will be his seventh consecutive one.

Young held another successful auction at San Diego, there being 130 floor bidders, 751 mail bidders, and a total of 795 successful bidders on one or more lots. Prizes realized reflect the steady, constant growth of numismatics, and the resultant constantly advancing prices.

AUCTION PRICES REALIZED

Lot No.	Description	Brought
22	Hawaii commemorative half dollar, unc.	$ 97.50
58	1936 proof set, unc.	185.00
114	1877 cent, unc.	72.00
136	1796 quarter, VF	215.00
282	1795 $10 gold, about EF	201.00
345	1776 Continental pewter dollar, unc.	112.00
381	1877 shield nickel, proof	131.00
658	$10 refunding certificate, VF	225.00
780	1796 half dollar, VF	505.00
962	$50 Augustus Humbert gold slug, 1851, VF	715.00
1024	1856 large cent, proof	80.00
1025	1856 F.E. cent, proof	415.00
1028	1856 dime, proof	70.00
1030	1856 half dollar, proof	100.00
1040	1857 half dollar, proof	90.00
1056	1838 Gobrecht dollar, proof	595.00
1057	1839 Gobrecht dollar, proof	480.00
1066	1851 dollar, proof	615.00
1067	1852 dollar, proof	410.00
1068	1858 dollar, proof	345.00
1191	1914D cent, unc.	98.00
1209	1879 $4 Stella, proof	840.00
1211	Type set Commemorative half dollars, unc.	637.50
1213	Confederate half dollar, unc.	128.00
1303	1861D $1 gold, VF	407.50
1916	Roll 1949S dimes, unc.	115.00
1919	Roll 1950S dimes, unc.	97.50

Cutlines

SEE PICTURES, PAGES 12 AND 13

(1) Earl A. Parker and the Leo A Youngs conduct auction. (2) Banquet hula entertainment. (3) Arthur "Frenchy" Vigneault and exhibit. (4) Wilson Edwards, master of ceremonies. (5) Dr. Bruce Wallace at bourse. (6) Typical banquet scene. (7) Watching hula; S. M. Koeppel, right of center. (8) Eugene Johnston and Dr. C. L. Emmons; Erich Werling in left background. (9) Horseplay? (10) Kenneth L. and Gene N. Nichols at their exhibit. (11) Scene at zoo. (12) J. V. McDermott shows his 1913 Liberty head nickel. (3) Chicken, a l'Earl Parker. (14) Charles V. Kappen, Gene Johnston and David Redfield, among others, view displays. (15) Dr. Ray Wilson and Francis Jones conduct drawing; R. G. McArthur, CSNA president, is interested observer. (16) Karl Brainard and A. C. Barlow at bourse. (17) R. G. McArthur, Ralph Mitchell, Tom Ward and Stewart Bingham. (18) James J. Andersen, San Diego Numismatic Society president, C. V. Kappen, Dr. N. A. Bowers, Dr. C. L. Emmons, Harry Davidson and L. C. Panosh. (19) L. C. Panosh, ANA president, converses with Roy Hill and Francis Jones. (20) Abner Kreisberg, William and Esther Spence, Herb Feinberg and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Gans. (21) A. Kosoff and L. C. Panosh. (22) Charles L. Ruby discusses exhibit with Francis Jones. (23) CSNA officers and directors. Left to right, seated: Dr. Calvert L. Emmons, Robert G. McArthur and Leonel C. Panosh. Standing, left to right: Harry S. Davidson, Charles V. Kappen, Thomas W. Ward, Ralph A. Mitchell and Dr. Nathan A. Bowers. Francis S. Jones, convention general chairman, is at extreme right. (24) John E. Ohls presents award ribbons. (25) Abner Kreisberg and Jerry Cohen at bourse. (26) Dr. C. L. Emmons and Herb Feinberg. (27) The registration committee.

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Convention Scenes

Photography by Stewart Bingham, Eugene

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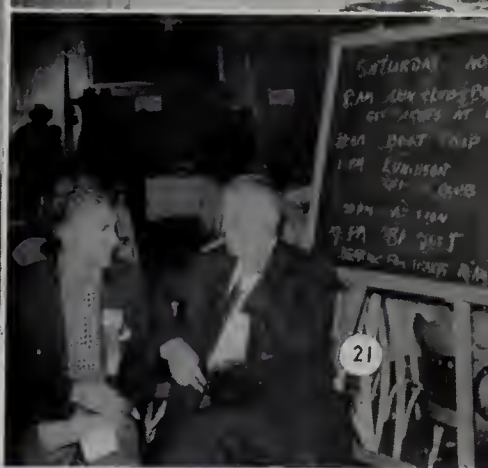
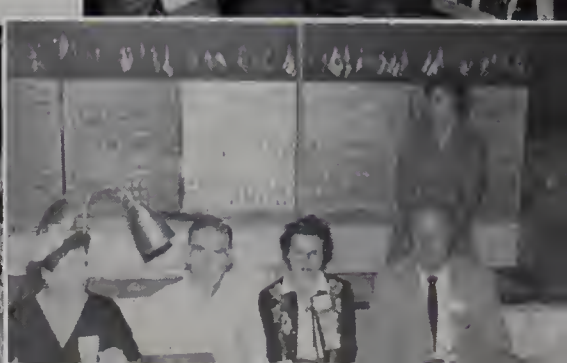


at San Diego

Cooper, Winn Osborne and Dr. Ray Wilson



Who's Who In California Numismatics

William Raymond Weber

By R. G. McARTHUR

Introducing William R. Weber, your host and general chairman of the coming San Jose convention, a fellow who insists, with due modesty, that the title of this article should be "Who's He in California Numismatics?"

Bill, the son of Raymond and Cosby Weber, was born May 16, 1919, in San Jose, Calif. His father is deceased, but his mother presently resides in Palo Alto, Calif.

Weber, after attending five different grammar schools, Westlake and Garfield Junior High Schools (Oakland), Berkeley High School (Berkeley) and University High School (Oakland), completed his formal education at Merritt Business College of Oakland.

The United States Navy, on Jan. 31, 1941, claimed Bill as an apprentice seaman. Six and one half years later, after service as a Naval Air Corps pilot, he was discharged with the rank of ensign.

The Webers, William Raymond and Marian Harvey, were married May 1, 1945, and now are the parents of four children: Sue, 9; Gary, 7; Ray, 5; and Blanche, 2. Bill's reply to the form question, "What are their professions, businesses, etc., if not at home?" was "Most assuredly they are at home. Their common professions could be described as WEARING. Wearing out shoes, clothes, home, mother and father. They are all very lovable, very intelligent, very good looking; by far the finest four children that two frustrated parents could have."

Bill's position, which he has held since Nov. 10, 1947, with the Los Gatos Telephone Co., Los Gatos, Calif., has been the indirect cause of his becoming a coin collector. His initial acquisitions were nickels, dimes and quarters, taken from telephone pay station collections. "What beauties; most are back in circulation." At present his interest lies principally in U.S. half cents, large cents, Colonials, hard times tokens, U.S. currency issued prior to 1865, and odd and curious money. Bill tells it best in a letter to the writer of this article.

"My original desire to collect coins was prompted by that foible, prevalent since 1945, that anything old is valuable. Since there usually are six to 10 Barber coins in the collection of our pay stations, I got the idea that I could make a killing in selling these "rare old coins" to collectors. After the roof fell in, my dream shattered, I found that coins are interesting and so began this grand adventure. It was not until joining a club (San Jose) that I found what I feel is the significance of coin collecting. This enlightenment caused a radical change in what I collected. Where my goal had been to complete all the current and Barber coins in series, it changed to early U.S. and Colonial coinage. Now my goal is not necessarily to acquire all the varieties of U.S. half cents or any

(Continued on Page 15)

Some If's for Coin Collectors

By CHARLES L. RUBY, Fullerton

If you can keep your coins and still be contented when other collectors are selling theirs to make a little profit;

If you can trust your judgment of prices and conditions when others hesitate to believe their own, and never let your purse strings get too loose;

If you can study coins and never get tired of studying or discouraged when you can't find all the answers;

If you can dream of coins desired and never stay awake at night just wishing and planning;

If you can want certain coins and not let your wants become a mental block;

If you can lose the purchase of a "must" and not become despondent, but be satisfied to wait another moon;

If you can enjoy hearing the truth about your affliction from family, friends and the psychiatrist, yet retain your sanity and friendly smile;

If you can watch the collections of your fellow collectors be auctioned when their earthly interests are over, and not feel a bit remorseful;

If you can display your coins with a sense of pride and humility and never breathe a word about their worth;

If you can be envied without becoming egotistical and can continue to enjoy your hobby to the fullest;

If you can appreciate another's collection without coveting a single piece and enjoy hearing others say their coins are superior to yours;

If you can talk with coin fanatics or buy from sharpies and still retain your pleasant disposition without losing sight of the purpose of your hobby;

If you don't let falling prices and a few counterfeits tempt you to lose faith in coins and men alike, but study and profit from such discouraging experiences;

If you can meet and talk with coin neophytes and experts alike, and never appear too smart or too dumb;

If all collectors (beginners and advanced) mean the same to you, and your sharing is your remuneration, and you feel your indebtedness to God and man;

If all your idle moments have been made into happy memories and your table's not kept bare of necessities;

If you are always satisfied with any condition coin to fill a hole and don't spend more than you can afford to improve your collection;

Then, collector, you just aren't human.

William R. Weber

(Continued from Page 14)

other series, but to be well versed on what I do have in my collection."

The Weber numismatic library includes "one **old** Blue Book for buying, one **new** Red Book for selling, Gilbert on U.S. Half Cents, Sheldon on Early U.S. Large Cents, Low on Hard Times Tokens (NATURALLY, Kappen made me buy one). All of the above books I own. I also have a long-term lease on Newcomb, Large Cents, 1816 to 1857."

Bill joined the San Jose Coin Club in 1953, was its secretary in 1954 and currently is serving as one of its directors. He became a member of CSNA in 1954. Other hobbies include fishing, quail watching and evading taxes. (In this last connection, see above list of "exemptions".)

If you would care to meet this very likeable and most capable young man, and I am sure you would, plan now to attend the coming spring convention, to be held next April in San Jose.

———CSNA———

Benjamin Franklin was the first private citizen to be portrayed on a regular United States coin.

San Jose Coin Club Seal

By ROY HILL, San Francisco

The recently adopted seal of the San Jose Coin Club has as its central theme the first state capitol, which was located in San Jose by a resolution adopted at California's first state constitutional convention at Monterey, Sept. 26, 1849.

Now the state's seventh largest city, San Jose was established first as a "pueblo" or civil community by the Presidio of San Francisco, Nov. 29, 1777.

Nothing much happened to the sleepy little village until March 27, 1850, when with American statehood, it became the first city and first capital of the new State of California.

At that time, with a population of 5000, San Jose was a hodge-podge of tents, shanties and one-story adobe buildings. With no funds, its daring delegates and lobbyists had won for their city a new honor, but the problem then faced was how to provide housing for the new state government.

Two Frenchmen, Pierre Sansevain and Zepheryn Rochon, were building a 60x40 ft. two-story adobe, intended to be a hotel, on the east side of the plaza between San Fernando and San Antonio Sts. A proposal that it be rented for $4000 was superseded by outright purchase for $34,000.

The building was occupied by first legislative session Dec. 15, 1849, but because of its state of incompleteness, only the Assembly could be accommodated. The Senate met nearby on the site of today's Civic Auditorium.

This unsatisfactory housing, added to such inconveniences as poor hotel facilities and heavy rains, resulted in an early attempt to go elsewhere. Such a decision was reached Feb. 14, 1851, and adjournment of the session May 1, 1851, brought to an end San Jose's short-lived honor of being California's capital.

The building burned down April 29, 1853, but troubles entailed in the financing lingered on into 1871.

Visitors to San Jose today may see a replica of this historic structure at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, south of the city. This replica played a prominent part in San Jose's program during the California Centennial celebrations, 1948-50.

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Vol. X JANUARY, 1956 No. 1

Directory in March

The annual directory of California State Numismatic Association members will be published in the March issue of **Calcoin News.** This will permit the listing of those members who pay dues after first of the year.

Deadline for the directory will be Jan. 31. Those who have failed to pay 1954 dues by then will be dropped as delinquent from the CSNA membership rolls and their names will not appear in the directory.

SEABY TO SAN JOSE

B. A. Seaby, coin dealer and numismatic book publisher of London, England, has reserved the first bourse space for the spring CSNA convention in San Jose, according to Earl A. Parker, bourse chairman.

Bourse reservations ($20) may now be made with Parker at 1254 Market St., San Francisco 2, Calif.

The Lowlands and Numismatics

By MILTON C. STRAUCH, Daly City

The leading inspiration behind my hobby of collecting coins was my long-time fascination with the history of the Netherlands. The true extent of this fabulous field gradually unfolded before me as time passed, and as I became aware of the historic setting of each new acquisition. Interest finds a way of grouping and establishing its own organization, and perhaps the most convenient presentation to make on this topic is to trace the development of coins through the various eras.

Early coins of truly Dutch and Belgian national character cannot be found before about 1572, for the region we now know as the Netherlands and Belgium was under foreign domination. The Lowlands changed conquerors among the Burgundians, the Spanish, and the Austrian Hapsburgs at various times before nationalism took root and the people threw off foreign control. Coins used in the Lowlands until 1572 emanated from whichever conqueror happened to be in possession at the time, and they reflected no local character whatsoever. This early period holds little interest for me, which is reflected in my collection by few coins.

Typical of how a coin represents an historic period is my coin from Leyden, a 5-sol piece, 1574 (both in silver and paper). This town heroically withstood a terrible siege by the Spaniards in the general surge to freedom, and in the ensuing reaction by the Hapsburg conquerors. In order to break this long siege, the Dutch opened the dikes and flooded the pasture land, permitting their fleet to reach almost to the city gates. The Spanish, led by the Duke of Alva, were annihilated. Before the siege was broken, however, the citizens ran out of metal for coining, and Bibles from the churches were collected and sent to the temporary mint, where they were laminated and pressed into the original dies that were designed for metal coins.

Haarlem did not fare as well as her sister city, and was retaken by the Spanish after a savage defense. The conquerors in reprisal exacted terrible vengeance, murdering all the soldiers in the town. The governor of Haarlem donated his personal silver objects, which were melted down for coinage, and of which my collection includes a half-campaign dollar (1572). In 1577, Haarlem was recaptured by William of Orange, and was permanently incorporated in the United Netherlands. This was the period when, along with the establishment of Dutch independence, this tiny nation gained mastery of the sea which it held for a substantial length of time. It was not until much later that the British were to challenge this position.

The nine Southern Provinces (modern Belgium), were united in 1578 by the Spanish. Prior to this, they had supported the northern states (modern Netherlands) in the revolt, but being unable to gain their freedom, as did their neighbors, they settled down to remain under Spanish rule. Brussels and a few other Belgian cities issued siege coins during this period.

The Treaty of Westphalia, 1648, gave recognition of independence to the Netherlands. This was the start of the so-called "Golden Age". The individual provinces issued their own coins. Groningen, for example, struck a half cavalier (7 gulden) gold piece, kept in circulation until the time of Napoleon. Likewise, Utrecht minted a cavalier (14 gulden). The other provinces issued the above as well as 3-gulden silver coins. Today's modern rixdollar is a development from the individual silver ducatons, which first were struck in 1659.

The Netherlands Union, a very small country, could not continue to maintain her formidable naval position. The enriched motherland was fast growing soft, about the time of the Peace of Utrecht (1713), which ended the War of the Spanish Succession, and the Dutch were starting to give ground to their formidable British rivals. The Dutch were sympathetic with the cause of the American colonial movement, and relations with England deteriorated This led to open war in 1780, when England

captured several of the Dutch colonies that she wanted. The Peace of Paris, 1784, wrote a sad ending to a disastrous war, in which the Dutch Empire started to shrink.

In Belgium, the Spanish period lasted until the Treaty of Utrecht, 1713. The territory was given to Austria, and became known as the Austrian Netherlands. They pursued a policy of benevolent despotism, giving the local provinces a large degree of autonomy, as witnessed in their various coins minted in their principal cities. Emperor Joseph's disregard for "national prejudices" earned special dissatisfaction in the Austrian Netherlands, and a local revolt broke out in Brabant province in 1788. Joseph died in 1790 and was succeeded by Leopold, who was a statesman. By his moderation, he was able to quell the revolt and then restored the revolters' privileges. During this revolt, Brabant issued two coins, one of which is in my collection, the silver crown of 1790 (also known as the lion).

In 1795, the French set up the Batavian Republic in the aftermath and burst of energy which followed the French Revolution. The same type coins continued to be minted by the individual provinces. This was a period of political confusion in the Netherlands. Napoleon, in 1806, placed his brother, Louis, on the throne, ending the republic. This new puppet kingdom lasted only four years. All mints in the Netherlands were closed in 1806, with the exception of the one at Utrecht. During the brief reign of the too-gentle King Louis, who finally earned the dissatisfaction of Bonaparte, the coins were changed in design (denominations remaining the same), reproducing the effigy of Louis on the obverse, while on the reverse the Dutch coat of arms is depicted quartered to Napoleon's, adding the Imperial French eagles to the Dutch lions.

In 1810, the Kingdom of Holland was formally annexed as an integral part of the French Empire. The Utrecht mint joined the rest of the French Empire in coining the various gold and silver francs and minor coins, which were universal coinage in the Empire.

In 1792, the armies of the French Republic overran the Austrian Netherlands, annexing them immediately and directly to France. An interesting episode of this period is to be found in 1814, at the time of the rapid disintegration of the French Empire, when the Allies were besieging the city of Antwerp. The French were forced to mint emergency money, issuing 5- and 10-centime pieces in copper.

With the overthrow of Napoleon, the Netherlands and Belgium were united by the Treaty of Vienna, 1815. This proved to be an unfortunate and unsatisfactory arrangement and was terminated by the revolution of 1831, from which Belgium emerged as an independent state. Since that time, the two countries have remained in their present forms. The Dutch have depicted the ruling monarch on their coins, backed by the coat of arms of the House of Orange. The only exceptions to this form are the 1- and 2-ducat gold pieces, depicting the traditional knight in armor, persisting until 1854 and 1937, respectively. From 1831 on, the sole remaining Belgian mint, Brussels, followed the pattern of its neighbor, in depicting the ruling monarch on the coins, backed by the coat of arms of the ruling house, Saxe-Coburg-Gotha.

The colonial coins conform very closely to the motherland issues, in that they are nearly identical, being distinguished by a letter indicating destination for distribution. The Netherlands Antilles, comprising such islands as Curacao, St. Martin and St. Eustatius, carried the letter "W", replaced since World War II by the name Netherlands Antilles. The Netherlands East Indies, with such well known islands as Java,

(Continued on Page 22)

KEY TO PLATE

1. Leyden, 5-sols, silver, 1574; rev. Latin legend. 2. Utrecht, 14-gulden or cavalier, gold, 1763; cuirassed man on horseback galloping; Latin legend, meaning "Union is strength"; rev. coat of arms, Utrecht Province. 3. Netherlands 20-gulden, gold, King William III, 1851; rev. arms of the Netherlands (rare, only 2500 minted). 4. West Friesland ducaton or silver rider, 1673; cuirassed man on horseback galloping; Latin legend, "Coin of the United Dutch Provinces"; rev. arms of the States General; silver. 5. Brabant (province of Belgium) lion of Belgium, 1790; rev. coat of arms of 11 cities; silver. All coins are illustrated actual size.

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The Neglected Coin

By BRYAN BURKE JR., San Bernardino

Fig 1. One of these coins sold for $10,000. Do you have one?

Though this is the U.S. coin most neglected by collectors, when it was issued it caused more excitement than has any other.

The first one minted was bought by the Remington Typewriter Co. for $10,000, highest price ever paid for a coin up to that time. And the typewriter company did not get to keep the coin after having paid such a fantastic price.

Fig. 2. Higinbotham Signs

Here is the story of the issue of the first Columbian commemorative half dollar:

On Dec. 19, 1892, five barrels, each containing 10,000 Columbian souvenir half dollars, were delivered to the World's Columbian Exposition headquarters in the Rand-McNally building. The coins were received in the headquarters office by Harlow N. Higinbotham, president of the world-wide event, in the presence of other officers of the Exposition. The shipment was signed for by Higinbotham as shown in this cut from the **Chicago Index Ocean** of Dec. 20, 1892.

[SEE FIG. 2]

The Exposition president removed his coat, then broke open the barrel marked "special". This illustration also is from the **Index Ocean.** Notice that the newspaper did not picture Higinbotham in his shirtsleeves.

[SEE FIG. 3]

After breaking the top out of the special barrel, the president reached in and pulled out a canvas bag. In this bag was the coin for which the Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict Co., makers of the Remington typewriter, had contracted to pay $10,000. What kind of box do you suppose the government used to house such a valuable coin? It was the old reliable cigar box. The tobacco box contained the 1st, 400th, 1492nd and the 1892nd Columbian half dollars minted.

After placing the latter three coins in his pocket, Higinbotham read a

Fig. 3. Breaks Open Barrel

certificate written by Col. Oliver C. Bosbyshell, director of the Philadelphia Mint, to the effect that the coin in the envelope marked No. 1 was the first Columbian half dollar minted. Higinbotham then showed his numismatic knowledge by using a piece of cotton with which to hand the coin to J. F. McClain, representative of the Remington Typewriter Co. The crowd gave McClain a round of applause as he then placed the beauty in a glass case which he had brought for that purpose.

This illustration from the **Chicago News-Record** of Dec. 20, 1892, shows McClain holding his prize.

[SEE FIG. 4]

All those present then signed a certificate that the coin in the case was the one taken from the envelope marked No. 1.

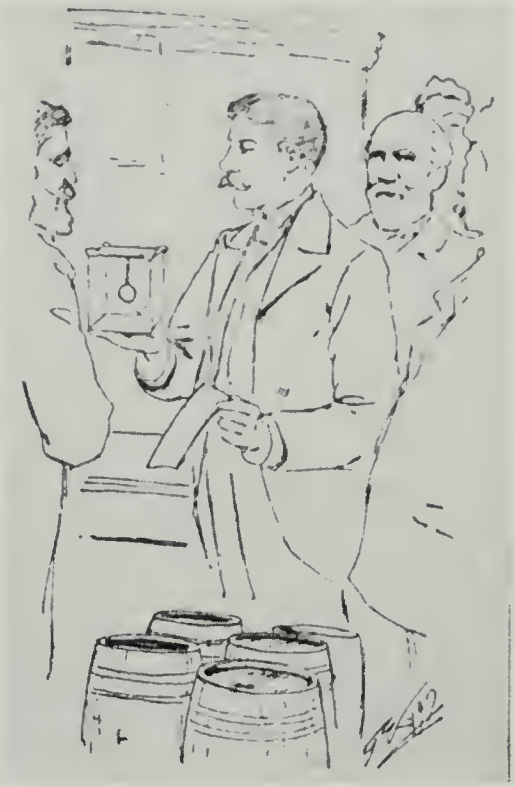

Fig. 4. McClain Holds Prize

Here is a photo of the $10,000 check from the Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict Co. which appeared in **The Numismatist** through the courtesy of Joseph Stack.

[SEE FIG. 5]

The contract which the typewriter company signed called for the return of the coin to Higinbotham or his

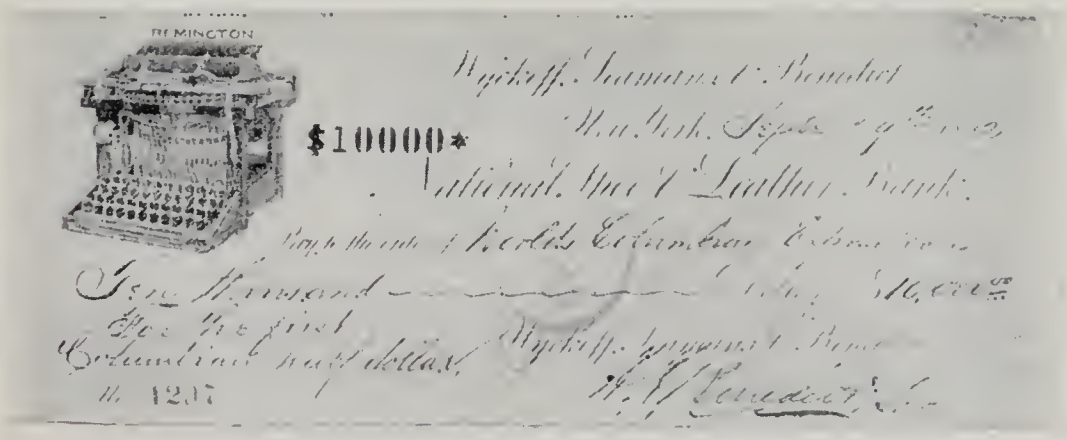

Fig. 5. Check which paid for first Columbian half dollar.

successors so that it could be lodged in the Chicago area for permanent safekeeping. The coin is not now in the Field Museum (Chicago Natural History Musuem) as most people think, but was presented by Mrs. Richard T. Crane, Higinbotham's daughter, to the Chicago Historical Society.

The remaining 49,996 halves were sent out to agents for sale to the public. Later, cnough coins were sent to the Exposition that the Exposition artists could make an 18-foot replica of the United States Treasury building from the coins by stacking them properly.

The agents who received the coins sold them for $1 each at first, but later released them at face value. Speculators, however, received as high as $5 each for the first few sold. I wonder how many of the ones we see in collections of odds and ends cost the original owners $5?

I hope the reader will now have more than neglectful attitude toward our first commemorative coin. Why not give the Columbian half dollar a decent place in your collection? This commemorative not only has the distinction of being the first issued, but it also sells for the least amount. It often can be purchased for less than the original selling pricc of $1. It is a coin which looks well, even when tarnished or worn.

I take this opportunity to thank the Remington Typewriter Co.; Joseph Stack, New York coin dealer; Joscph Zywicki of the Chicago Historical Society; Clifford Gregg of the Chicago Natural History Museum; and **The Numismatist** for illustrations and data for this article.

———CSNA———

COMMISSION ADVISER

Leonel C. Panosh, ANA presidcnt and CSNA director, has been namcd to serve on the advisory committee of thc Alexander Hamilton Bicentennial Commission, set up by Act of Congress last year. The bicentennial is in 1957.

———CSNA———

DUES ARE DUE

CSNA annual dues of $2 arc now being rcccived by Thomas W. Ward, secrctary-trcasurcr, Rt. 1, Box 85, Fallbrook, Calif. Mcmbcrship includes subscription to **Calcoin News.** Subscription rate for the magazine to non-members is $3 a year.

Coinage of Lowlands

(Continued from Page 18)

Sumatra, Borneo, Celebes (these islands now comprise the independent state of Indonesia), distinguished their coins from the motherland with the initials "V.O.C.", replaced in about 1800 by the name "Netherlands Indies".

In general, the coins for the Belgian Congo are hardly distinguishable from thosc in Belgium proper. Certain minor exceptions are to be found in details such as the coat of arms, and an elephant instead of the monarch, for a special issue.

The United States has honored Dutch colonial achievements in such commemorative issues as the following half dollars: 1924, Huguenot-Walloon Tercentenary; 1935, Hudson-New York Sesquicentennial; and 1936, Long Island Tercentenary.

The Union of South Africa in 1952 issued a commemorativc crown honoring the Dutch colonizers in South Africa, the Boers, the first settlers in that region.

Since receiving its independence in 1949, Indonesia has issued five coins, 1-, 5-, 10-, 25- and 50-sen pieces, which replace the former Dutch circulations.

This brief prospectus has been designed to show the relationship betwcen the development of coins and the growth of a nation. The various historic milestones are in every case reflected in a particular coin or scries of coins. When times werc especially pressing, unusual specimens resulted, such as the laminated paper coins of Leydcn. Conversely, when times were prosperous, more denominations werc put in circulation in order to take care of thc finer shades of commcrcial life. It is extremely significant that such a tiny area as the Lowlands should bc so rich in history-lorc, and at the samc time occupy such a prominent position in thc ficld of numismatics.

THE END

———CSNA———

Thc animal shown on thc U.S. nickel 1913-38 is not a buffalo; it is a bison.

* * *

Plating and coinagc are two of the oldest uscs of the mctal nickel.

Convention Facts and Figures

San Diego, Nov. 10-13, 1955

RECEIPTS

Total registration 205, as follows:		
81 registrations at $8.00	$648.00	
72 registrations at 5.50	396.00	
52 registrations at 2.00	104.00	
41 extra banquet tickets sold at 3.50	143.50	
3 extra luncheon tickets sold at 2.50	7.50	
Bourse: 25 tables at $15.00	375.00	
Received from San Diego Numismatic Society in payment for club breakfasts, charge included in disbursements, hotel	56.10	
Total convention receipts		$1730.10

DISBURSEMENTS:

Hotel, banquet, luncheon, breakfast	$820.10	
Ribbons	52.89	
Police guard	134.75	
Signs	27.04	
To San Diego Numismatic Society in repayment of funds advanced for photographs, transportation of and repairs to cases, etc.	43.55	$1078.33

PROFIT TO CALIFORNIA STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION: $ 651.77

NOTE: The above figures are not final, as some funds are still due to the association, and some slight expenses are yet to be met.

REGISTRATION BY CITIES

San Diego	33	Encino	2	Manhattan Beach	1
Los Angeles	22	Fullerton	2	Palo Alto	1
San Francisco	13	Hollywood	2	Salinas	1
Oakland	11	Huntington Park	2	San Bernardino	1
Long Beach	7	La Verne	2	San Luis Obispo	1
Lockeford	5	Montebello	2	San Marino	1
Santa Barbara	5	Ontario	2	Santa Maria	1
North Hollywood	4	San Jose	2	Santa Monica	1
Alameda	3	Vallejo	2	Sherman Oaks	1
Glendale	3	Vista	2	OUT-OF-STATE	
La Mesa	3	Albany	1	Arizona: Tucson	1
National City	3	Alhambra	1	Colorado: Pueblo	2
Pasadena	3	Azusa	1	Nevada: Fallon	1
Redlands	3	Beverly Hills	1	Las Vegas	1
Riverside	3	Campbell	1	Zephyr Cove	1
Sacramento	3	Chico	1	New Mexico:	
Santa Ana	3	Compton	1	Albuquerque	1
Anaheim	2	Costa Mesa	1	Ohio: Dayton	2
Arcadia	2	Fallbrook	1	Parma	1
Atherton	2	Grover City	1	Oregon: Portland	1
Balboa Island	2	Inglewood	1	Springfield	1
Berkeley	2	Lafayette	1	Wisconsin: Iola	1
Chatsworth	2	Lakewood	1	Racine	2
Daly City	2	La Selva Beach	1	South Milwaukee	2
El Cajon	2	Live Oak	1	U.S. Navy	1

THOMAS W. WARD,
Secretary-Treasurer.

FIVE 100 PER CENTERS

Five persons are in a tie for the CSNA convention attendance record. Those having been present at all 17 state conventions are Roy Hill, San Francisco; Mattie and Irving Knickerbocker, San Diego; Leonel C. Panosh, San Diego; and William Sexton, Santa Maria.

PLUMB MIXED UP

Albert C. Overton, Pueblo, Colo., coin dealer, was quite dismayed to learn that he had registered for the wrong convention at San Diego. Three conventions were being held in the hotel at the same time. Al completed registration with the plumbers' convention before learning of his mistake.

From the Desk of the Secretary-Treasurer

NEW MEMBERS

694	ANDERSON, Fred F.	230 26th St., San Diego 2, Calif.
687	BARLOW, A. Chaffin	2939 El Roble, Los Angeles 41, Calif.
695	BUSHNELL, J. C.	336 West 8th St., McMinnville, Ore.
696	CARR, Michael K.	426 Benecia Road, Vallejo, Calif.
700	CLIFFORD, Henry H.	639 Spring St., Los Angeles 14, Calif.
693	DECKER, Douglas	2837 K Ave., National City, Calif.
691	FRAZIER, William E.	1041 West 1st St., Santa Ana, Calif.
692	HAMM, Paul H.	3860 Superba St., San Diego 13, Calif.
689	LUNDGREN, Ray	119 West 4th St., Los Angeles 13, Calif.
697	MORALES, Narciso R.	U.S.N. Radio Stn., Box 5, Imperial Beach, Calif.
690	MORRISON, E. E.	1143 Pine Ave., Long Beach 13, Calif.
688	MUSCALUS, Dr. John A.	11 Blaine Ave., Buffalo 8, N. Y.
699	TEDTMAN, Henry A.	140 Lime Ave., Long Beach, Calif.
698	VAUGHN, Charles H.	4529 Judson Way, San Diego 15, Calif.

ADDRESS CHANGES

207	GREEN, R.	P.O. Box 284, Skokie, Ill.
216	GREEN, C. E.	P.O. Box 284, Skokie, Ill.
531	BROWN, L. L.	P.O. Box 691, Riverside, Calif.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Cash on hand Sept. 30, 1955			$ 462.86
Receipts: 1956 dues		$ 32.00	
Convention profit		651.77	
Total receipts			683.77
			$1146.63
Disbursements: Printing, **Calcoin News**		159.00	
Postage		10.00	
Total disbursements			169.00
Cash on hand Nov. 30, 1955			$ 977.63

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership Sept. 30, 1955	423
Membership Nov. 30, 1955	437
Paid-up members Sept. 30, 1955	391
Paid-up members Nov. 30, 1955	405

THOMAS W. WARD,
Secretary-Treasurer.